GPS for exact geographical location of trains

1653. DR. K. KESHAVA RAO:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether Railways has any proposal to install Global Positioning System to know exact geographical location of each train at all times;

(b) whether it is a fact that private transporters are already using this technology; and

(c) if so, the reasons why Railways is delaying adapting it for its network?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir. Railway has sanctioned a pilot project Satellite Imaging for Rail Navigation (SIMRAN) for real time passenger information system. This project is being developed by utilizing Global Positioning System (GPS). This project is being carried out jointly by Research Designs & Standards Organisation (RDSO), Lucknow and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur. The pilot project is sanctioned for development of hardware and software for providing real time information to the passengers.

The objectives of SIMRAN project are:

To develop technology for continuously tracking every train for its location, speed and direction of movement.

To develop techniques to disseminate information on real time basis about train running to passengers and to the general public through display boards of stations, Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS), Short Message Service (SMS) and Internet.

(b) Yes, Sir. This technology can be used for tracking of moving objects like vehicles, locos, aeroplanes etc.

(c) The pilot project is planned for completion by March, 2008. Based on its outcome, decision to implement this system over Indian Railways will be taken.

Vacancies in Railways

1654. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of vacancies in Railways, zone-wise and department-wise; and

(b) the action taken to fill up those vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU):

(a) Railway/Zone-wise and department-wise vacancies as on 31.12.2007

Railway/Zone	Acct	Adm	Civil	Coml	Elect	Mech	Med	Pers.	RPF	S&T	Store	TPT
Central	215	101	3404	1049	1770	1726	401	116	631	705	511	1957
East Coast	36	70	5232	472	796	1202	153	152	432	353	18	725
East Central	198	232	6826	1186	1193	1923	289	117	351	781	484	1665
Eastern	226	41	5665	299	1262	2778	13	12	911	696	440	975
North Central	274	130	2466	732	1601	1474	195	92	137	676	260	1012